

# AVIATION

JUNE 25, 1923

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Army Fokker transport plane T2 flying over McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio

VOLUME  
XIV

## SPECIAL FEATURES

NEW WORLD'S RECORDS  
VALUE OF BARRAGE BALLOONS  
RULES OF THE ST. LOUIS AIR RACES  
DESCRIPTION OF PACKARD AIRSHIP ENGINE

NUM  
2

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HIGHLAND, N. Y.  
225 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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Illustration of  
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Aircraft"



W R I G H T

JUNE 25, 1923

# AVIATION

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is the designation that has been given to the Navy M01 all-metal airplane, a product of the Glenn L. Martin organization.

The development of this plane, of which six have been built for experimental purposes, called for an unusual amount of research work because of the many really new features in its design

and construction.

But the fact that it has passed the many and exhaustive Navy tests and that thirty-eight additional machines of this design have been ordered, speaks volumes for the utility and correctness of this new creation in aeronautics, as well as for the ability and progressiveness of the organization responsible for it.

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# AVIATION

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### Showing the Flag

**A**CCORDING to a decision announced by the United States Shipping Board, the Government will operate a sufficient number of vessels to keep the American flag flying on all world trade routes.

If American Aviation had a leader who would champion its needs in Congress, it is probable that the Government could be made to adopt a somewhat similar policy with regard to Commercial Aviation. Commercial aircraft, more or less than merchant vessels of the sea, by showing the flag of a country, help in establishing and maintaining its prestige abroad, and so enhance its national and moral influence.

Though we have won the principal world's aviation records, they will represent a barren victory if they are not followed up by a well formulated aerial policy which will enable the industry to find foreign markets before European aircraft interests have obtained a strong footing. The applies in particular to Latin America, where British, French and German interests are extremely active.

While technical and financial considerations guide us for the time being, any aerial intercourse between this country and Europe, similar difficulties do not exist with respect to Alaska, Mexico, the West Indies and Panama. The pioneering work done by the Air Mail Service as the transformed service, is an example of the valuable kind of assistance the Government can furnish Commercial Aviation. It is believed that this assistance should be extended to open up an air mail line to Alaska, and another to Mexico and Panama. On both routes much charting of the air lanes will have to be done before commercial aircraft can regularly use them. That our existing possessions should be linked up by air with the contiguous United States will be obvious to all who have given this question thoughtful attention.

It is hoped that when the budget for the coming fiscal year is being prepared, the question of "showing the flag" by air as our existing possessions will find a spokesman worthy of the importance of the subject.

### British Air Policy

**S**IR SAMUEL HOARE, British Air Minister, in presenting to the House of Commons the estimates for the Royal Air Force made a statement regarding the British aircraft industry that ought to be of special interest to our aircraft manufacturers.

"The order which the Air Ministry will place with the aircraft industry during the forthcoming year," said Sir Samuel, "will be substantially greater than in recent years. The

industry has been passing through very lean times, and the permanent closure of industrial economy lanes made it very difficult for the Air Ministry to give it the assistance which its value to the state might have seemed to justify. There is every reason to anticipate that from now on a varied outside of requirements will be sufficient to maintain an adequate number of firms on a sound and stable basis."

In 1922-23 British government expenditure for airplanes and aeroplanes was £705,000. This has been increased to £2,020,000 or about five times. It would appear from the statement that practically all of this is to be spent on better than air equipment. The total budget asked for was £12,244,943.

If the estimates of the progressiveness of the United States for air defense could be compared so that the public and Congress would know just how much the country is spending for this industry, it would be easier to judge the progress that is being made, and to make comparisons. As these estimates are introduced with so many other estimates it is very difficult to make fair comparisons.

With the aircraft industry in France adequately supplied with governmental business, and the prospect of the British aircraft industry being put on a sound basis, we may look forward with confidence to the time in the near future when national policy will require the United States Government to extend to the American aircraft industry the support it deserves as an essential factor in national defense.

### Flying Low Over Crowds

**W**ITH the flying season getting in full swing, there are renewed instances of ignorant pilots flying low over crowds gathered at baseball games, beaches, etc. Cases of this sort have not been very frequent so far, but pilots of the Army and Navy Air Services, the Air Mail and the reputable air lines do not count such infractions of the rules of safe and sane flying.

The five pilots who go contrary to the New York City Ordinance which prohibits a minimum altitude of 2000 ft. when flying over Greater New York cause considerable annoyance and considerable harm. They should realize that by flying low over crowds they do not boost aviation: quite on the contrary they create a volume of antagonism against the aviation, for every accident here and there resulting into injury, or that the moment addressed to the pilot is often far from complimentary.

For the sake of the future of commercial aviation the harmful practice of flying low over crowds should be wiped out by common agreement among all airtight pilots.

# Packard Model 1551 300 hp. Airship Engine

BY J. G. VINCENT

Vice President of Engineering Packard Motor Car Co.

The six engines which will drive the Navy's giant airship, the R-38, now nearing completion at Lakehurst, N. J., are being built by the Packard Motor Car Co. at its factory in Detroit. All are expected to be complete in time for installation about July 1.

One of the engines recently tested at Philadelphia Navy Yard met every requirement and drew enthusiastic praise from the Navy officers who witnessed the trials. The engine is of the inverted type in that the cylinder which was originally built for test last summer, the first marine engine ever to pass successfully through such a final trial.

## General Characteristics

The engine is one of the air cylinder in line vertical type. There are water-cooled and have a bore of 6½ in. with a stroke of 7½ in., giving a piston displacement of 1201.51 cu. in. The rated horsepower is 300 h.p. at 1600 r.p.m.

The crankshaft has seven main bearings with diameters of 2.875 in. and the following lengths: propeller and 3.025 in. intermediate 3.5 in. between 3.125 in. and 2.625 in. The crank pin diameter is 2.625 in. and connecting bearing width 3.125 in. Connecting rods are 17½ in. long. Piston pin on the end of aluminum alloy. The compression ratio is 4.5 to 1.

The crank, one of the best series type, parted at the center line of the crankshaft. The main bearing bolts are carried through the crank case to remove the cylinder head down bolts.

Cylinders are of the built-up integral steel type, removable in respect to inlet and exhaust ports. Provision is made for positive lubrication in the cylinder head. There are two intake and two inlet valves to each cylinder. Valves are made of high tension steel. They are 1 in. in diameter in the case with ¾ in. long stem. Inlet valves 10.750 in. and exhaust valves ¾ in. There are two concentric springs on each valve.

There is a double rocker arm to each pair of valves with a single push rod. The rocker arm runs in 1 to 1.005 and there are five roller bearings on a 1½ in. shaft. A force feed grease system is used for lubricating the rocker arms. A double supercharger pump raising it to size and a belt engine speed is used in the cooling system.

Dyno system system is used and there are four shaft plugs to each cylinder. There are two cylinder pressure distributors and four ignition coils in Detroit were mounted on the instrument board. The governor is a 15-volt constant current type running at one and a half engine speed. A hand crank with automatic emergency stop and emergency and control 30 in. is provided for starting.

The equipment on the instrument board includes the following: auxiliary pressure, double location switch, water meter, water and starting switch, indicator, high pressure oil pump, low pressure oil pump, water temperature, oil level, thermometer, rotation current relay, throttle control, mixture control, instrument shut-down tank and four master rods.

Because of the necessity of draining the exhaust away from the ship both right and left hand engines are provided. The right hand engine is so designed that exhausts are on the right side and the engine rotates clockwise looking toward the propeller. Left hand engine runs counter clockwise and exhausts are on the left side.

For right hand engine the water pump, governor and exhaust manifold are mounted on the right side and governor, watermeter and water meter and ignition interconnectors are standard reverse side on the left. All these units are shifted to opposite sides on the left hand motor.

The weight of the engine complete with instrument board and starter is 1250 lb. and the weight of the water in the engine 50 lb.

Tests of the engine which have been made gave a maximum of 350 h.p. at 1600 r.p.m. and a normal rated horsepower of 300 at 1500 r.p.m. The maximum fuel consumption was 8.5 lb. per h.p. hour at 1600 r.p.m. with a normal fuel consumption of 6.5 lb. per h.p. hour. The maximum oil consumption of 3.00 g.p.m. was 0.60 lb. per h.p. hour and the normal 0.52 lb. per h.p. hour.

The oil supply is supplied in a tank with a capacity of 8 gal. located at the rear of the engine. The oil is led from the bottom of the tank through a shut-off valve to the inlet on the engine mounted on the oil pump, thus being the center of the two main bearings. The oil then passes through the pump which corresponds to the outer oil of all pump ports and thus further removed from the engine. The oil is then directed through the passage at the upper left hand portion of the pump which passage resembles with a pipe fastened in the bearing gear seat and leading up to the outer surface of the oil cylinder. The oil then passes through a two way cock which determines which of the two passages it is to take and which permits of closing the streamers out at a time while the motor is running.

After passing through the oil streamer the oil returns through a tank and runs into this two way cock, one down through the main tank and the other through the horizontal main high pressure relief valve. The adjustment of the tension on this valve spring determines the oil pressure carried through the lubricating system and at 1500 r.p.m. this pressure should be from 15 to 300 lb. The overflow from this high pressure relief valve passes through the low pressure relief valve which carries a return passage at the center of the main tank. Because these two relief valves a connection is provided for the pump supplying oil for cylinder lubrication.

## Crankshaft Construction

The crankshaft is hollow and is the center of each main bearing a radial hole is drilled through the shaft into the hollow center. This hole in the shaft remains with a corresponding hole and groove in the main bearing and every revolution of the shaft at each time a small quantity of oil is forced through the hole into the crankshaft. A passage leads from each hollow main bearing to the adjacent main pin shaft is also hollow. A radial hole in each pin lubricates the pin. A tube fastened to the connecting rod carries oil through the connecting rod to the bearing in the pin shaft bearing in the bearing gear of the engine. The oil pump drives the oil shaft into the hollow main passage at will as the oil shaft after driving past bearings. Additional passages carry oil up to the main shaft bearings at the outer end of the connecting rod. The main shaft is hollow and provided with holes at each main shaft bearing so that these parts are all pressure lubricated. A passage is provided around the inlet into the shaft bearing in the bearing gear as described of the engine and communicates with a special fitting fastened to the crankshaft directly over the main shaft. From this point the oil is led by an external pipe to the governor and other parts of the engine. The governor is led by another pipe to the central location. At this point the oil returns with the throttle control unit.

A method of running the length of the engine parallel and close to the main shaft communication with driven passages which project through the top surface of the crankshaft and separate with drilled holes in the cylinder cover. These holes extend upward for a short distance in the cylinder head and then extend under the shaft driven through the cylinder head. As the way oil is positively led to the cylinder head on the left side which is that side of the bore exposed to the greatest thrust from the piston. The vertical passages through the crankshaft are provided at the upper end to prevent too frequent a flow of oil into the piston.

The oil which is drawn off from the connecting rods and

main bearings and cylinder with felt by gravity to the bottom of the crankcase and is sucked out by either one of two connecting pipes.

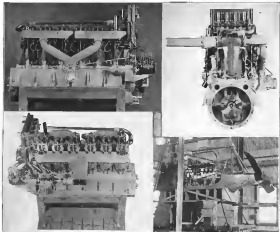
The throttle control unit resembles a cross-sectional section for controlling the engine. It is located in the intermediate throttle and a lever spring is arranged to return the throttle to the idling position when the throttle is engaged with the throttle valve, which results in closing the throttle in any position in which it may be left by the operator. In order, however, to keep the throttle open it is necessary to have a sufficient oil pressure built up on the left of the dash-pot, which is mounted in a casing behind the control board, to compress the pressure of the spring surrounding the plunger which extends through the control board. This spring reaction over 20 lb. of pressure is more the plunger of the way out. The reason that should the engine be running with out an operator holding the throttle in place it will automatically throttle itself down to an idling speed should the oil pressure drop to less than 20 lb. of pressure due to loss of oil, burnt out bearing, broken connecting or any other failure. This valve mechanism will return the throttle to idling position should the engine run at its limit over 1600 r.p.m. The purpose of the governor is to govern the engine according to a predetermined speed in the event of the propeller breaking, which disengaging or slipping, or any similar accident which might remove the engine of part or all of its load. The governor is of the centrifugal type and is driven by a gear working with the inlet cam shaft gear, the governor shaft projecting through the front of the bearing gear case and

driving the inlet ignition distributor. This governor function to reduce the oil supply of oil to the intermediate throttle seat and in this manner causes the automatic control to bring the engine down to idling speed in the same manner as when the oil pressure is reduced due to any other cause.

The governor system is of the battery pressure type in which the battery furnishes the source of current for starting the slow speed running, with at higher speeds the battery is "brought on the line" being changed by a generator which at the end of the pump shaft. The distributor are used in the closed circuit type. Two double distributors are used in each engine giving four camshaft-cams to each cylinder.

The Model 1551 cylinder is composed of a series of steel forgings welded together with a steel metal water jacket surrounding the cylinder barrel. The complete cylinder is machined and ground on all required surfaces so as to obtain an interlocking seal. Extraordinary rigidity is obtained in the cylinder head by pressing a thick steel plate over all four valve ports, this plate being held in place, making a positive reinforcement for the cylinder head. The water case supports are forged integral with the interlocking steel and exhaust pipe flanges and these supports or brackets are further strengthened by six ribs extending across the cylinder.

The Model 1551 engine have been especially designed to facilitate the removal of individual cylinders in case of emergency. The cylinders are held down on the crankcase by means of four clamps, which are held by four eye screws which screw into the heads of the main bearing bolts.



Different views of the Packard Model 1551, 300 hp. airship engine, one of which will be fitted to the U. S. naval ship R-38, under construction at Lakehurst, N. J. In the lower right hand corner the engine is mounted in a set-up for testing.





















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